SPEAKER'S ANNONCEMENT :

EXSTENSION OF THE DATE OF NOMINATION ETC., TO SEVERAL COMMITTEES—ANNOUNCEMENT

MADAM SPEAKER.—I have an announcement to make.

As the Assembly is adjourning today, the last date for receipt of nominations for various Committee has been extended till 3.00 P. M. on 20th September 1973. The last date for with drawal will be 3.00 p.m. on 21st September 1973 The date of election, if necessary, will be notified later.

Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance

re . (i) Stoppage of words under famine relief and consequent effect on employment.

SRI BAPU GOWDA RAYAPPA.(Shahapur). —Call the attention of the Chief Minister to the stoppage of works started under '64 Famine Relief' in Hyderabad Karnatak area resulting in unemployment of engineers and others.

SRI. M.Y. GHORPADE — (finance Minister) Sir I make the following statement on behelf of the Chief Minister.

Large parts of the state were affected since the middle of last year by a drought of unprecedented magnitude. Government embarked on a relief programme which, besides providing work to the affected people, also took care of their requirements of food and water and fodder for cattle. As mentioned in my Budget Speech in March this year, arrangements had been made to provide employment for over 10 lakhs of people in the affected Districts; indeed, the objective was to provide employment to whoever was in need of work. I am happy to say that Government was successful in meeting this objective. The employment on relief works touched the peak figure of 9.03 lakhs in the third week of June. Since then, there has been a steady decline in relief employment and in the second week of August, it stood at 4.95 lakhs. It is not unnatural that there should have been this decline after the onset of the monsoons. As kharif operations started, a large number of persons employed on relief works went back to their fields for sowing and other agricultural activities.

2. Other factors have also contributed to the fall in employment on relief works. Soil Conservation which used to absorb a substantial proportion of the woakers can no longer be carried on a extensively as before. Where there are standing crops and even in the deep black soil areas, soil conservation works are diffi